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WHAT IF™ DR. STRANGE WERE A DISCIPLE OF DORMAMMU?

MAGICAL MAYHEM IN THE MARVEL MANNER!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

STAN LEE PRESENTS: A STUNNING SAGA OF AN ALTERNATE REALITY!

I AM THE WATCHER, A MEMBER OF AN ANCIENT RACE WHICH HAS DEDICATED ITSELF TO OBSERVING THE MANY WORLDS WHICH MAKE UP REALITY.

YET THERE ARE THOSE OF LESSER RACES WHO TREAD THE PATHS OF THE WORLDS BEYOND WORLDS, MANIPULATING RATHER THAN OBSERVING THE UNIVERSAL FORCES. SOME OF THESE BEINGS ARE CALLED SORCERERS.

PETER GILLIS, Bard
TOM SUTTON, Illuminator
BRUCE PATTERSON, Embellisher
TOM ORZECHOWSKI, Scribe
GLYNIS WEIN, Colorist
MARK GRUENWALD, Guide
JIM SHOOTER, Watcher

UNDER THE TUTELAGE OF THE ANCIENT ONE, THE HUMAN CALLED DR. STRANGE BECAME THE GREATEST SORCERER OF YOUR WORLD, PLYING HIS ABILITIES ON THE SIDE OF GOOD.

BUT THERE ARE OTHER WORLDS IN THE MULTIVERSE--WORLDS WHICH DIVERGE FROM ONE ANOTHER AT CRITICAL POINTS. YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS ONE SUCH WORLD, WHERE YOU WILL LEARN--

WHAT IF Dr. STRANGE HAD BEEN A DISCIPLE OF DORMAMMU?

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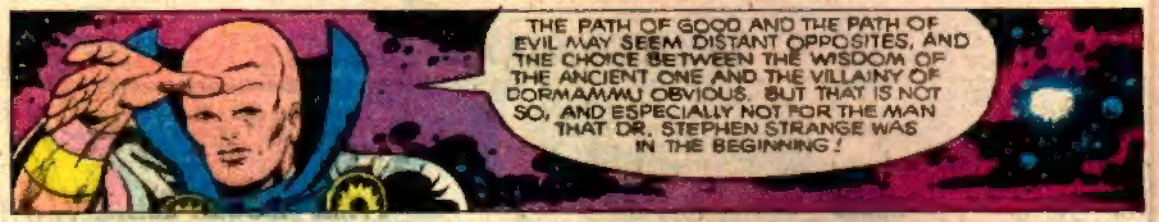
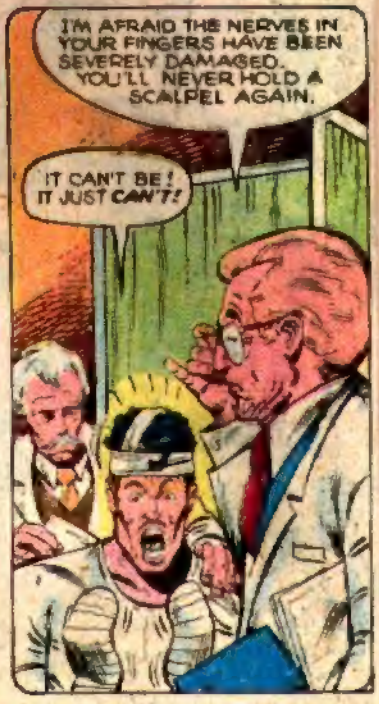

THE PATH OF GOOD AND THE PATH OF EVIL MAY SEEM DISTANT OPPOSITES, AND THE CHOICE BETWEEN THE WISDOM OF THE ANCIENT ONE AND THE VILLAINY OF DORMAMMU OBVIOUS. BUT THAT IS NOT SO, AND ESPECIALLY NOT FOR THE MAN THAT DR. STEPHEN STRANGE WAS IN THE BEGINNING!

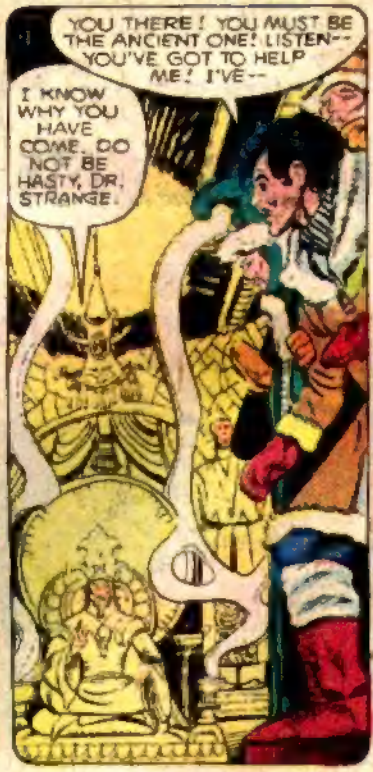
ANOTHER BRILLIANT OPERATION, DR. STRANGE.
THE KEY WORD FOR THE OPERATION, MY FRIEND, IS NOT 'BRILLIANT' BUT 'PROFITABLE'. SO SPARE ME YOUR GUSHINGS.
WITH PLEASURE, STRANGE! WITH PLEASURE!

BUT STRANGE'S MERCENARY SURGICAL CAREER WAS CUT SHORT SUDDENLY BY A CAR ACCIDENT.


I'M AFRAID THE NERVES IN YOUR FINGERS HAVE BEEN SEVERELY DAMAGED. YOU'LL NEVER HOLD A SCALPEL AGAIN.
IT CAN'T BE! IT JUST CAN'T!

ALL OF STRANGE'S WEALTH COULD NOT RESTORE HIS HANDS! FINALLY HE BECAME A DRUNKEN DERELICT WITH LITTLE MONEY AND LESS HOPE, UNTIL...
I SWEAR TO YE, IT'S TRUE! THIS ANCIENT ONE BLOKE -- HE CAN CURE ANYTHIN'! IT'S BLOOMIN' SORCERY!
WHAT'S THAT HE'S SAYING?
BAR

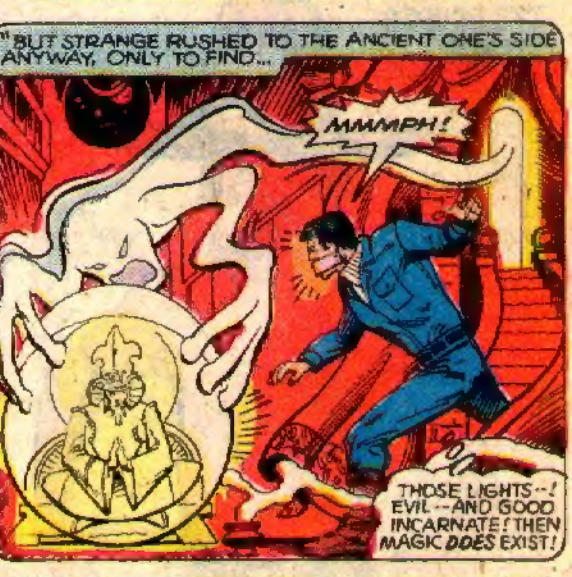
BUYING A TICKET ON A TRAMP STEAMER, STRANGE MADE HIS WAY TO THE MOUNTAINS OF TIBET...
THE ABODE OF THE ANCIENT ONE! I'VE FOUND IT AT LAST!
I'VE SPENT THE LAST OF MY RESOURCES TRYING TO FIND IT! HE MUST CURE ME! HE HAS TO!


YOU THERE! YOU MUST BE THE ANCIENT ONE! LISTEN-- YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME! I'VE--
I KNOW WHY YOU HAVE COME. DO NOT BE HASTY, DR. STRANGE.

YOU MUST SHOW YOURSELF WORTHY OF HEALING, DOCTOR. BUT THAT IS FOR LATER. MY PUPIL MORDO WILL SHOW YOU TO SOME QUARTERS.
WHAT A CREEPY-LOOKING CHARACTER!

"AND THAT NIGHT, STRANGE'S SUSPICIONS LED HIM TO MORDO'S CHAMBERS...
HEED YOUR LOYAL SERVANT, O DREAD DORMAMMU! STRIKE DOWN YOUR ENEMY WHILE HE WAITS UNSUSPECTING!
HEY! WHAT THE DEVIL'S GOING ON?

I THINK THE ANCIENT ONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT--UMMPH!
BUT YOU SHALL NOT WARN HIM, FOOL! THIS SPELL WILL SEE TO THAT!


"BUT STRANGE RUSHED TO THE ANCIENT ONE'S SIDE ANYWAY, ONLY TO FIND...
MMMPH!
THOSE LIGHTS--! EVIL--AND GOOD INCARNATE! THEN MAGIC DOES EXIST!

BEGONE, FORCES OF DARKNESS! AND FREE DR. STRANGE FROM MORDO'S SPELL!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! YOU KNEW!
I'VE BEEN A FOOL--!

"SO, DR. STRANGE, THE WORLDLY CYNIC, HAVING SEEN THE FORCES OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS IN CONFLICT, TOOK HIS FIRST STEP TOWARD THE LIGHT.
"OR SO IT WAS IN YOUR WORLD.

BUT SO MOMENTOUS AN EVENT AS THE INITIATION OF A SORCERER SUPREME IS FRAUGHT WITH CRITICAL POINTS, WHICH MIGHT HAVE LED TO IRREVOCABLE DIFFERENCES...
--MORDO WILL SHOW YOU TO SOME QUARTERS!
*AT THIS FATEFUL INSTANT, MORDO MAKES MENTION OF DR. STRANGE TO HIS MASTER DORMAMMU, AND THE DREAD ONE'S ADVICE SETS IN MOTION EVENTS THAT DIVERGE THE COURSE OF REALITY...
BUT, DREAD ONE, WHY SHOULD I BEFRIEND THIS MAN STRANGE?
SILENCE! QUESTION ME NOT, SLAVE! MERELY GIVE STRANGE WHAT HE WANTS!
*AND, SO...
YOU WANTED TO SEE ME, MORDO?
MORE THAN THAT, MY FRIEND! I WANT TO HELP YOU!
THE ANCIENT ONE, ALAS, IS SENILE! HE WILL DITHER ABOUT "BEING WORTHY" AND DO NOTHING! BUT I CAN HEAL YOUR HANDS!
THEN JUST DO IT, MISTER! I DON'T CARE TWO BITS ABOUT MAGIC OR EVIL OR ANY OF THAT! I ONLY CARE ABOUT RESULTS! DO IT, AND I'LL PAY ANY PRICE!
YOU SHALL LEARN THE PRICE LATER, STRANGE!
WAIT! WHAT--?
MY FINGERS -- I CAN FEEL THEM HEALING!
*THE ANCIENT ONE WATCHES WITH GROWING CONCERN--BUT AS YET HE CAN DO NOTHING.

WITH HIS ABILITY RESTORED, DR. STRANGE RETURNS TO AMERICA AND RESUMES HIS CAREER AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED...

IT'S UNCANNY! HE'S MORE SKILLFUL THAN EVER!

NO PATIENTS TODAY, NURSE!

I'M REVIEWING MY STOCK PORTFOLIO!

BUT THERE ARE, IN FACT, CHANGES IN HIS LIFE...

YOU HAVE HEARD THE VERDICT OF THE JURY, DR. STRANGE. YOU ARE GUILTY OF FLAGRANT MALPRACTICE. SENTENCING SHALL OCCUR ON THE DATE OF--

YOU FOOLS! I'M THE GREATEST NEUROSURGEON OF ALL! THERE'S NO WAY I COULD HAVE BUNGLED THE OPERATION! I'LL APPEAL--YOU'LL SEE!

ALREADY THE BLACK MAGIC MORDO USED ON HIM BEGINS TO EXACT ITS PRICE!

IF ONLY I COULD INTERVENE. BUT I AM FORBIDDEN!

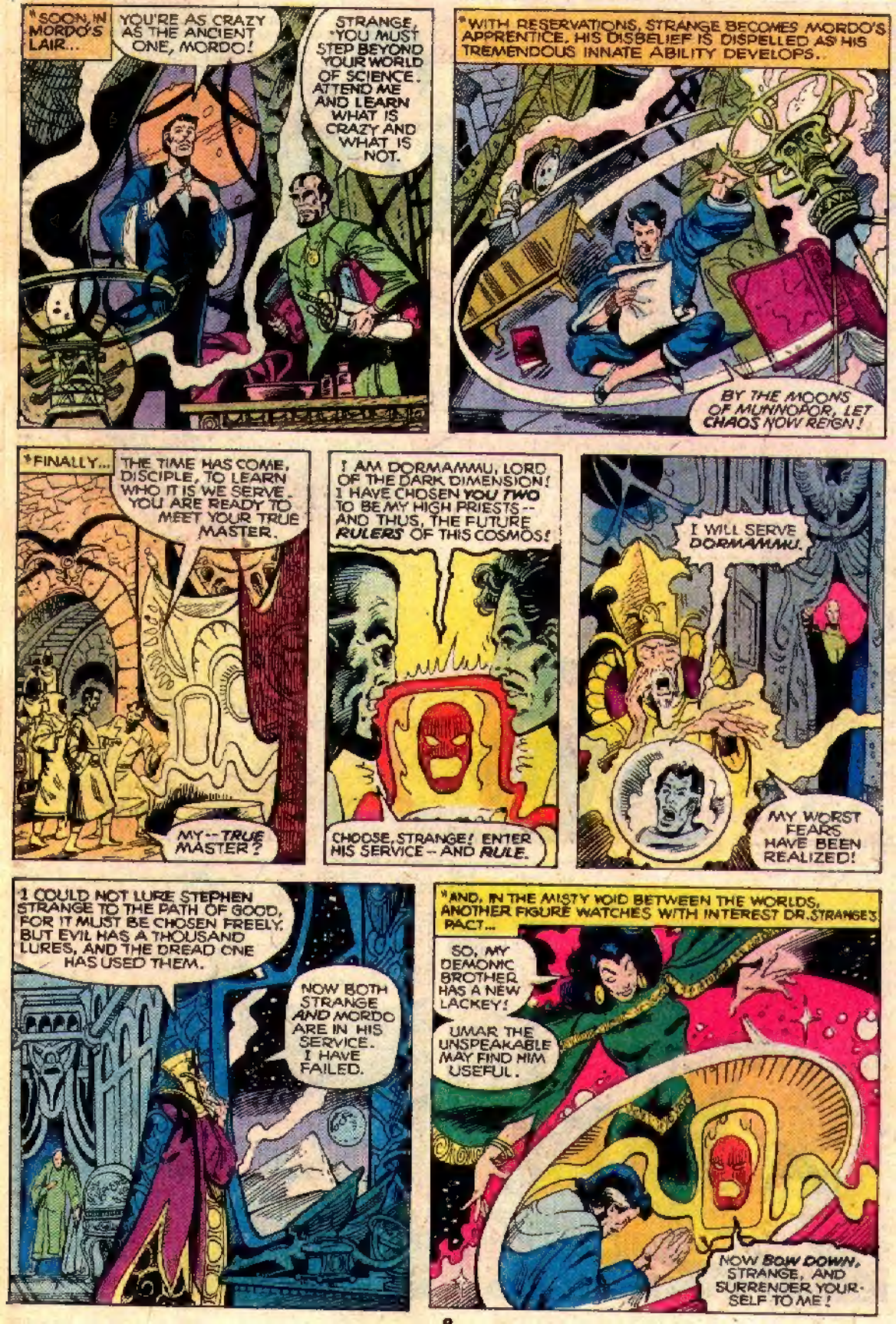
YOU'RE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE, STRANGE! AS YOUR LAWYER, I ADVISE--

SHUT UP! I'LL MAKE THEM PAY--YOU'LL SEE! I'LL COUNTERSUE! I'LL--

I WILL TELL YOU WHAT YOU CAN DO, DR. STRANGE!

YOU ARE NOT A DOCTOR BECAUSE YOU WISH TO *HEAL*. YOU WANT POWER--POWER OVER YOUR ENEMIES. FOLLOW ME AND I SHALL GIVE YOU THAT POWER, AND MORE!

TELL ME MORE, MORDO!


"SOON, IN MORDO'S LAIR...
YOU'RE AS CRAZY AS THE ANCIENT ONE, MORDO!
STRANGE, YOU MUST STEP BEYOND YOUR WORLD OF SCIENCE. ATTEND ME AND LEARN WHAT IS CRAZY AND WHAT IS NOT.
"WITH RESERVATIONS, STRANGE BECOMES MORDO'S APPRENTICE. HIS DISBELIEF IS DISPELLED AS HIS TREMENDOUS INNATE ABILITY DEVELOPS..
BY THE MOONS OF MUNNOPOR, LET CHAOS NOW REIGN!
"FINALLY...
THE TIME HAS COME, DISCIPLE, TO LEARN WHO IT IS WE SERVE. YOU ARE READY TO MEET YOUR TRUE MASTER.
MY--TRUE MASTER?
I AM DORMAMMU, LORD OF THE DARK DIMENSION! I HAVE CHOSEN YOU TWO TO BE MY HIGH PRIESTS -- AND THUS, THE FUTURE RULERS OF THIS COSMOS!
CHOOSE, STRANGE! ENTER HIS SERVICE -- AND RULE.
I WILL SERVE DORMAMMU.
MY WORST FEARS HAVE BEEN REALIZED!
I COULD NOT LURE STEPHEN STRANGE TO THE PATH OF GOOD, FOR IT MUST BE CHOSEN FREELY. BUT EVIL HAS A THOUSAND LURES, AND THE DREAD ONE HAS USED THEM.
NOW BOTH STRANGE AND MORDO ARE IN HIS SERVICE. I HAVE FAILED.
"AND, IN THE MISTY VOID BETWEEN THE WORLDS, ANOTHER FIGURE WATCHES WITH INTEREST DR. STRANGE'S PACT...
SO, MY DEMONIC BROTHER HAS A NEW LACKEY!
UMAR THE UNSPEAKABLE MAY FIND HIM USEFUL.
NOW BOW DOWN, STRANGE, AND SURRENDER YOURSELF TO ME!

AND, AS DR. STRANGE FREELY SUBMITS TO DORMAMMU'S RULE, HALF A WORLD AWAY, ANOTHER MAN BEARING THE TITLE 'DOCTOR' WILL SOON MAKE AN EQUALLY MOMENTOUS DECISION...

ENOUGH! I CAN TORTURE MYSELF *NO MORE!*

I AM DOCTOR DOOM! I POSSESS VAST POWER, UNTOLD WEALTH, AND UNEQUALLED GENIUS! THEN WHY AM I CURSED BY THIS RAVAGED FACE? WHY CAN I NEVER KNOW THE PEACE OF PERFECTION?

WHAT? WHO DARES INTRUDE--?

VICTOR VON DOOM. I HAVE SENSED A GREAT POTENTIAL FOR GOOD WITHIN YOUR SOUL. I OFFER YOU TO BECOME MY MYSTIC DISCIPLE!

DISCIPLE?? DOCTOR DOOM IS NO MAN'S INFERIOR!

STILL, THERE IS MUCH I CAN TEACH YOU.

AND FOR YOUR AID, I CAN OFFER YOU MUCH IN RETURN!

I CAN FREE YOU FROM THE CURSE OF YOUR FACE, VON DOOM, IF YOU WILL LEARN THE MYSTIC ARTS FROM ME!

NEVER! THE MONARCH OF LATVERIA RELIES ONLY ON HIMSELF! *HIMSELF!*

I-- SEE.

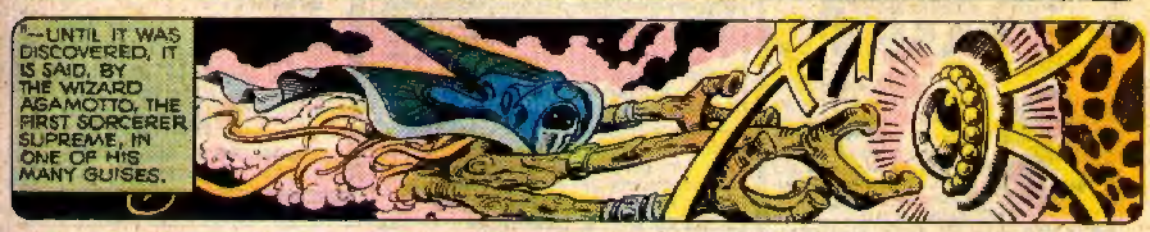
MASTER! HOW DID YOU FARE?

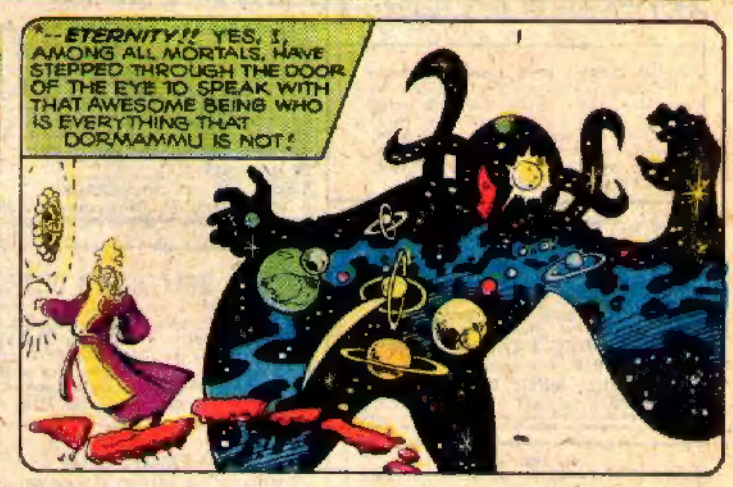
I-- SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER, FAITHFUL HAMIR.

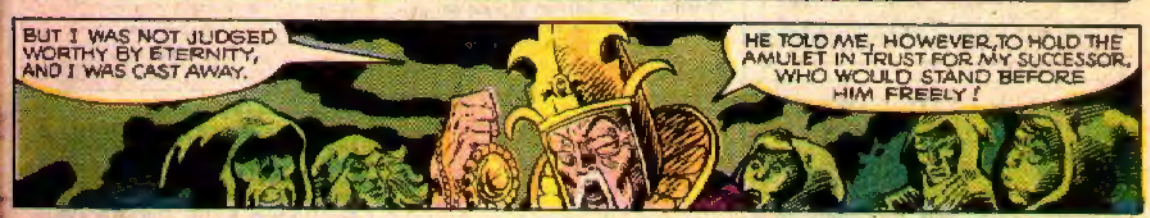
ARE THE OTHERS ASSEMBLED?

THEY ARE.

IN THIS DARK HOUR, EVEN THE GREATEST ASSEMBLAGE OF WHITE MAGICIANS ON EARTH MAY NOT BE ENOUGH!
*THE ANCIENT ONE PASSES INTO HIS INNER SANCTUM, THERE TO SILENTLY GREET THE NINE HE HAS SUMMONED:
*AND, ASSISTING HAMIR THE HERMIT AS ACOLYTES: VICTORIA BENTLEY AND WONG!
*THE SENILE BUT STILL POWERFUL GENGHIS!
*DR. ANTHONY DRUID!
*TURAN BARIM!
*LORD PHYFFE!
*RAMA KALIPH!
*COUNT CAREZZI!
*AGATHA HARKNESS OF WHISPER HILL!
YOU KNOW WHY YOU'VE BEEN SENT FOR. I SHALL NOT MISLEAD YOU: WE ARE THE WORLD'S LAST HOPE AGAINST DORMAMMU. SHOULD WE FAIL, THERE SHALL BE NONE TO STAND AGAINST HIM.
BUT, WISE ONE--! THE DREAD DORMAMMU IS LIKE UNTO A GOD! AND IF THE TWO MOST POWERFUL ADEPTS IN THE COSMOS ARE IN HIS CAMP--
--HAVE WE ANY HOPE? IS THERE ANY POWER WE CAN CALL ON-- OR ARE WE HERE MERELY TO DIE AMONG FRIENDS?
WE ARE NOT WITHOUT RESOURCES, DR. DRUID--
--FOR OF OLD I WAS THE NEMESIS OF DORMAMMU! FOR NEARLY FIVE CENTURIES I HAVE HELD HIM AT BAY! AND, EVEN NOW, WITH MY STRENGTH SAPPED BY TIME, THAT IS NOT FORGOTTEN!
BEHOLD THE TALISMAN WITH WHICH EACH OF DORMAMMU'S ARCH-FOES HAS EVER DEFIED HIM!
BEHOLD THE LIGHT OF TRUTH!
IT IS THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO--
--AND ITS SECRETS MAY PROVE OUR ONLY REMAINING HOPE OF VICTORY!







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"ONLY A MAGE OF SUPREME POWER COULD DARE IT!"

I COULDN'T SLEEP. SOME MYSTIC SUMMONS KEPT CALLING ME HERE, TO THE CHAMBER OF DORMAMMU!

WHAT CAN THE DREAD ONE WANT WITH *ME?*

DR. STRANGE, I HAVE DECIDED! YOU, AND *ONLY* YOU, SHALL BE MY FAVORED ONE. MORDO IS A CLUMSY FOOL.

I GIVE YOU POWER GREATER THAN ANY MORTAL DREAMS. YOU KNOW WHAT YOU MUST DO!

I DO, DREAD ONE! I *DO!!*

MORDO!

STRANGE?? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! HE COULDN'T--!

DORMAMMU HAS ORDAINED THAT YOU MUST DIE!

NO, STRANGE! HAVE MERCY--!

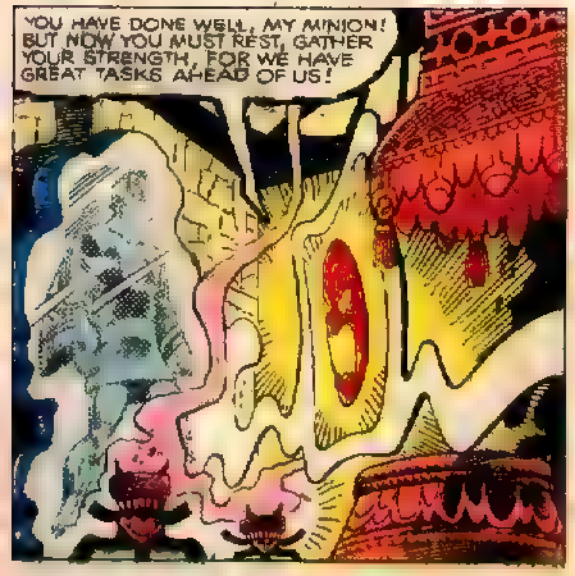
MERCY? YOU QUIVERING WORM, IS DORMAMMU A MERCIFUL GOD?

FOR ALL YOUR ARROGANCE, YOU ARE SOFT!

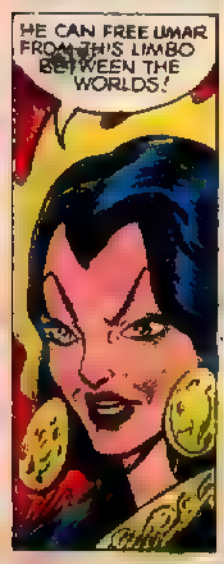
PLEASE, STRANGE--!

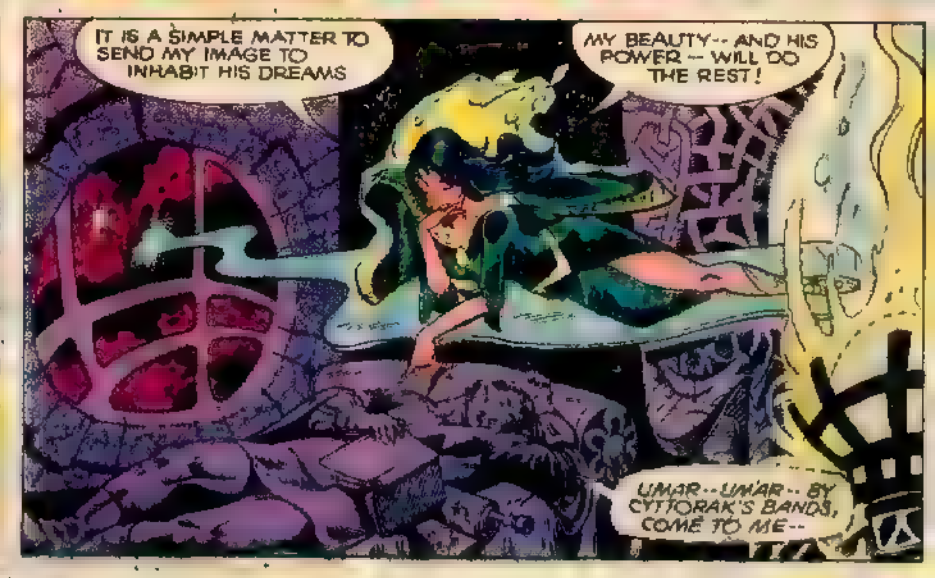
BUT DR. STRANGE IS HARD--STRONG! AND THAT IS WHY *YOU* ARE *NOTHING*--

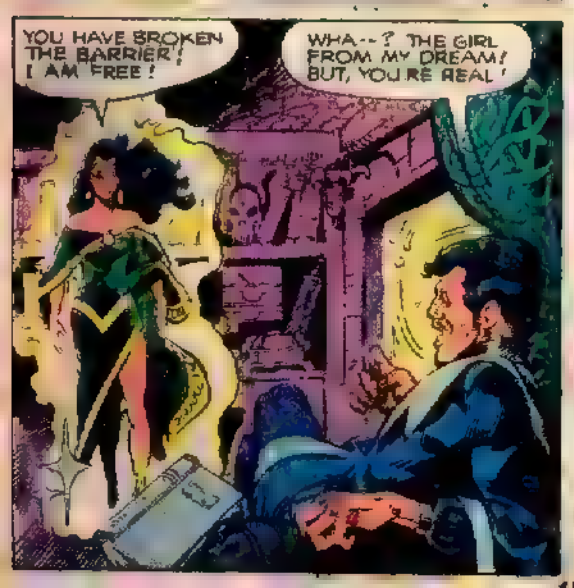
--WHILE *I* AM *SUPREME!*


YOU HAVE DONE WELL, MY MINION! BUT NOW YOU MUST REST, GATHER YOUR STRENGTH, FOR WE HAVE GREAT TASKS AHEAD OF US!

YES -- NOW THAT HE IS FILLED WITH MY BROTHER'S POWER, I CAN USE THIS MORTAL!


HE CAN FREE UMAR FROM THIS LIMBO BETWEEN THE WORLDS!


IT IS A SIMPLE MATTER TO SEND MY IMAGE TO INHABIT HIS DREAMS
MY BEAUTY -- AND HIS POWER -- WILL DO THE REST!
UMAR -- UMAR -- BY CYTTORAK'S BANDS, COME TO ME --


YOU HAVE BROKEN THE BARRIER! I AM FREE!
WHA -- ? THE GIRL FROM MY DREAM! BUT, YOU'RE REAL!

YOU HAVE BROUGHT UMAR THE INCOMPARABLE OUT OF A DREADFUL FATE, DR. STRANGE. I OWE YOU EVERYTHING, I CAN DENY YOU NOTHING.
NOTHING, YOU SAY?

MEANWHILE, IN THE CASTLE OF THE ANCIENT ONE, THE ASSEMBLAGE OF SORCERERS HAS TEMPORARILY ADJOURNED...

I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY SAY! SOMEHOW WE MUST CONTACT ETERNITY!

I HAVE IT! DR DRUID-- I HAVE IT!

I KNEW I HAD A SCROLL! THE ANCIENT ONE THINKS HE KNOWS ALL ABOUT ETERNITY, BUT GENGHIS KNOWS THE SECRET TOO! YES, YES, HE KNOWS!

THE SCROLL IS OLD -- FADED! BUT YES -- THERE IS THE WORD -- ETERNITY!

LATER, UMAR PAYS A VISIT TO DORMAMMU'S REALM...

OH, STOP FUMING, BROTHER DEAR! I'M FREE AGAIN, AND THAT'S THAT!

CURSE YOU, UMAR! I BANISHED YOU ONCE BECAUSE YOU WERE A THREAT, AND I'LL DO SO AGAIN!

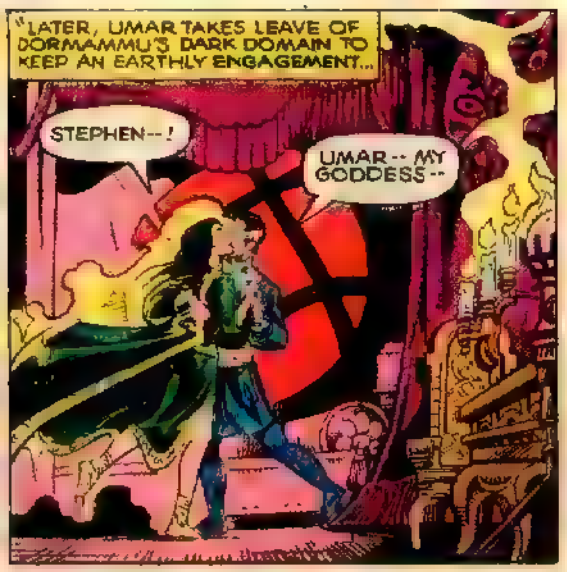
BUT YOU WON'T TRICK ME AS YOU DID LAST TIME, BELOVED!

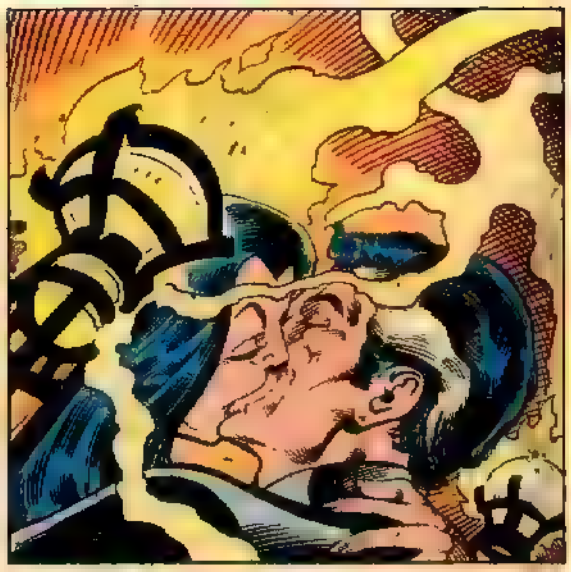
BESIDES, I HAVE ACQUIRED MORE -- *SENSUAL* AMBITIONS OF LATE!

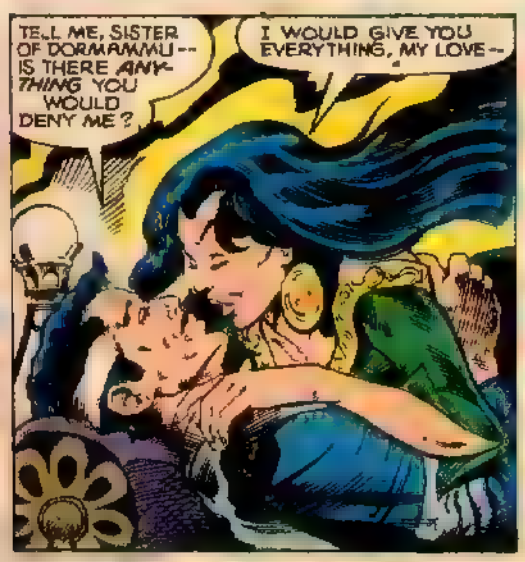
IF YOU MEAN STRANGE --

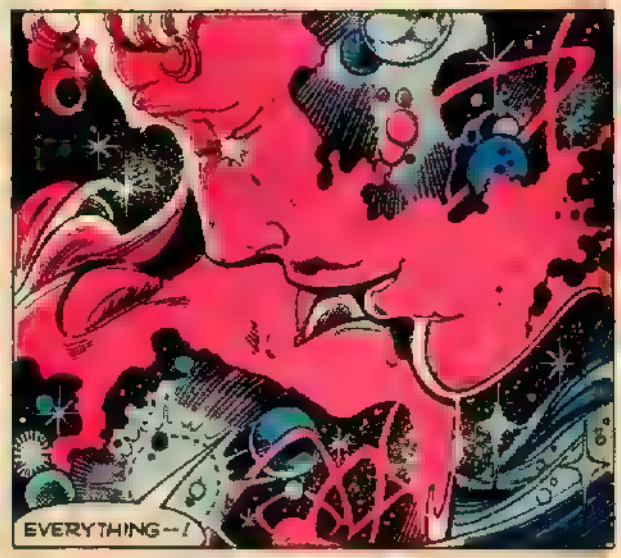
--HE IS THE TOOL WITH WHICH I SHALL BREAK DOWN THE GATES OF ORDER!

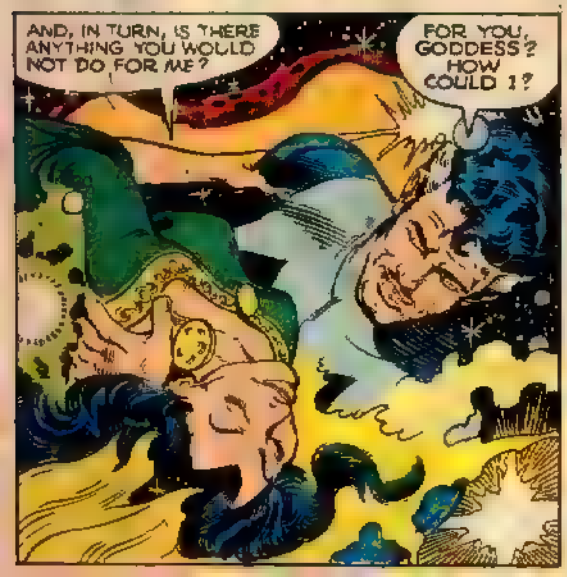
ALL THE MYRIAD WORLDS SHALL BECOME DARK DIMENSIONS -- PLACES OF *CHAOS!* AND ALL UNDER THE RULE OF -- *DORMAMMU!*

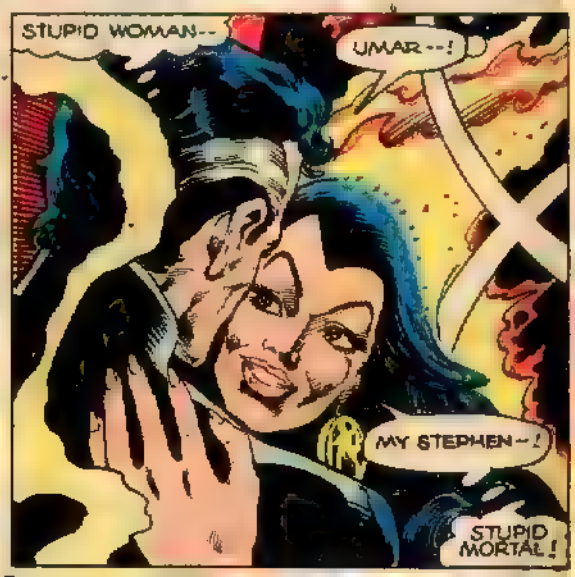

"LATER, UMAR TAKES LEAVE OF DORMAMMU'S DARK DOMAIN TO KEEP AN EARTHLY ENGAGEMENT...
STEPHEN--!
UMAR -- MY GODDESS --




TELL ME, SISTER OF DORMAMMU -- IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD DENY ME?
I WOULD GIVE YOU EVERYTHING, MY LOVE --


EVERYTHING--!


AND, IN TURN, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD NOT DO FOR ME?
FOR YOU, GODDESS? HOW COULD I?


STUPID WOMAN--
UMAR --!
MY STEPHEN--!
STUPID MORTAL!

*ONCE AGAIN, IN TIBET...

THERE! DO YOU SEE THEM, AGATHA HARKNESS?

INDEED, RAMA KALIPH! THEY'RE AWE-INSPIRING!

MY DEAR MADAME! YOU MAY BE UNFAMILIAR WITH THESE APPARITIONS BUT WE HAVE FACED THEM BEFORE!

THEY ARE TO BE HELD IN TERROR, NOT AWE!

THEY ARE THE WRAITHS DORMAMMU GIVES TO HIS MINION ON EARTH! AND THEY HAVE FOUND US!

BEHOLD! THEY RETURN TO STRANGE TO TELL HIM WE ARE GATHERED HERE!

AND THAT MEANS THE ATTACK WILL COMMENCE QUITE SHORTLY!

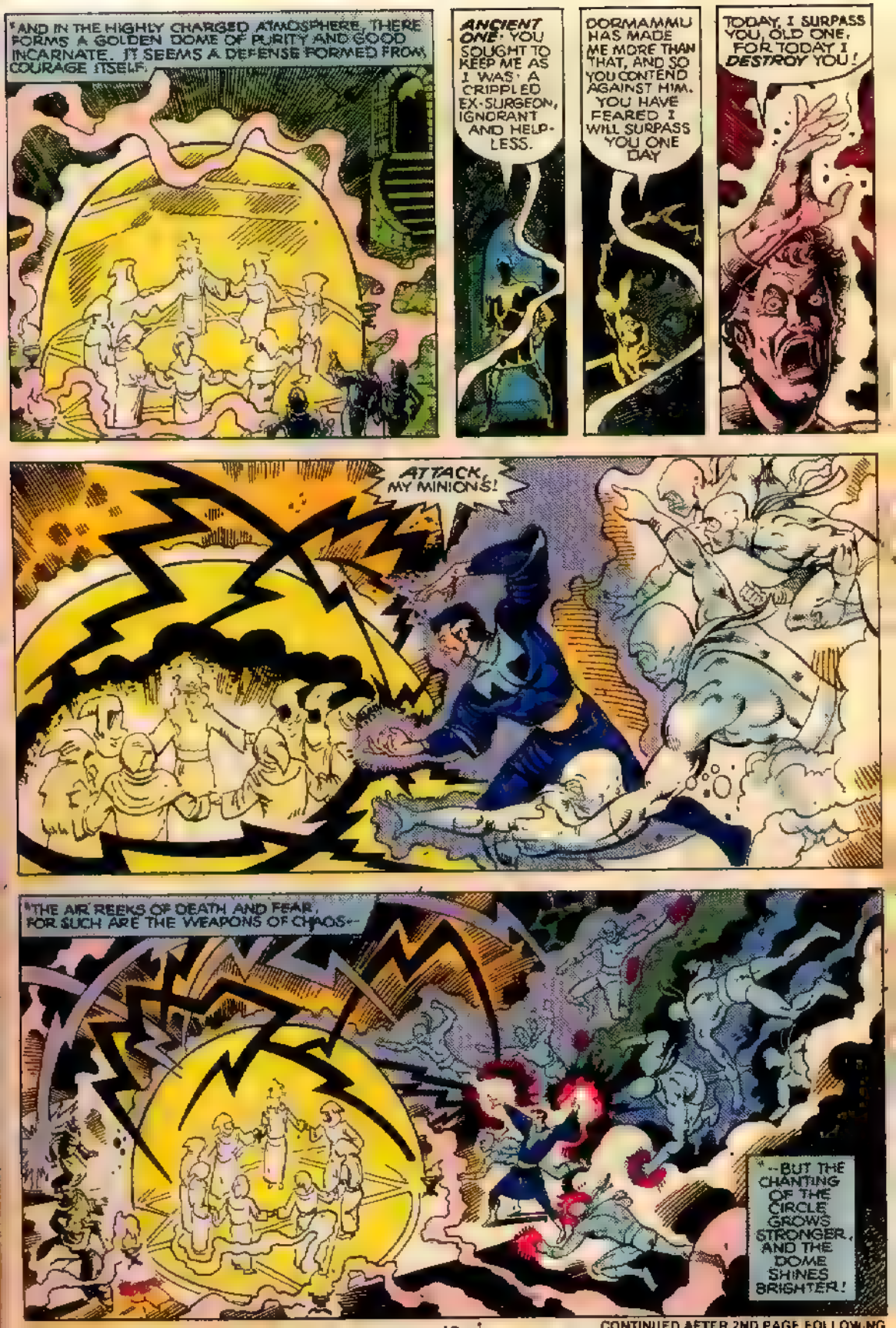
WE MUST WARN THE ANCIENT ONE!

*REACHING THE AGED MASTER'S SANCTUM, THE THREE FIND HE HAS ALREADY SUMMONED THE OTHERS...

BE AT PEACE! LET YOUR POWER FLOW, ONE INTO ANOTHER!

LET THE SPELL BEGIN!

By all the hosts of Hoggoth, By the power that in them flows, By the bush that burned with fire, By the man who once arose, The Vishanti's blinding light, And Oshtur's utter might Come into us, as dread around us grows!



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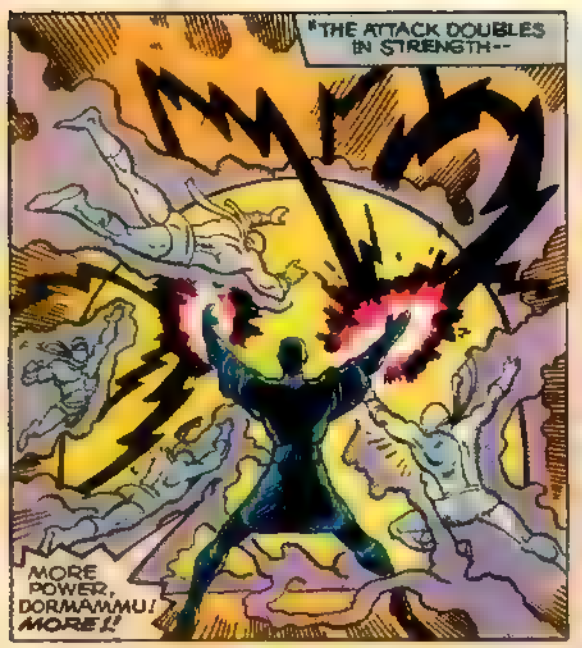
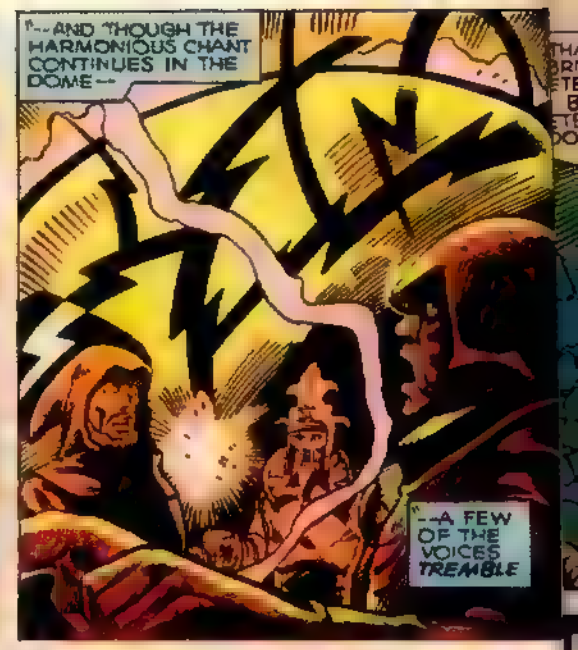
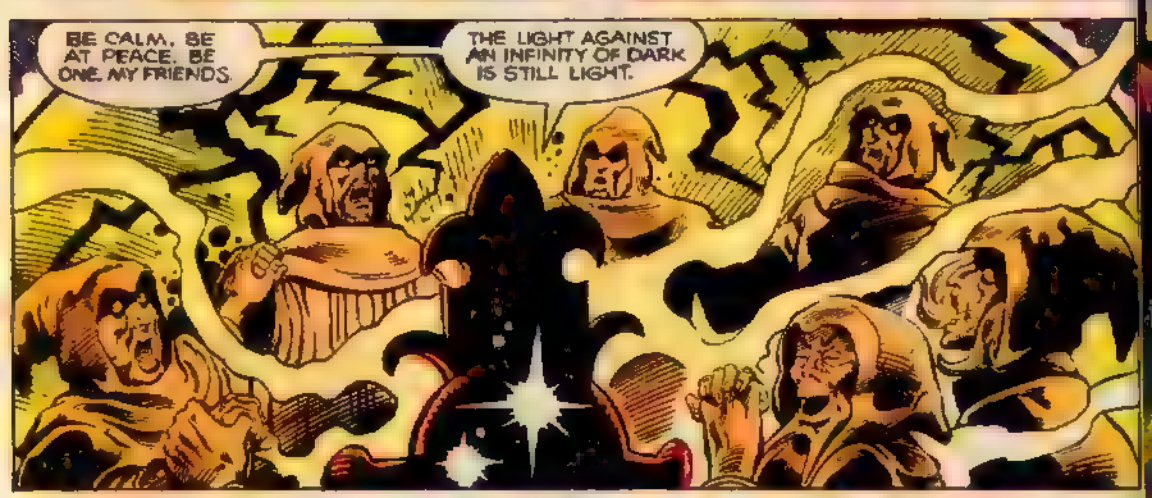
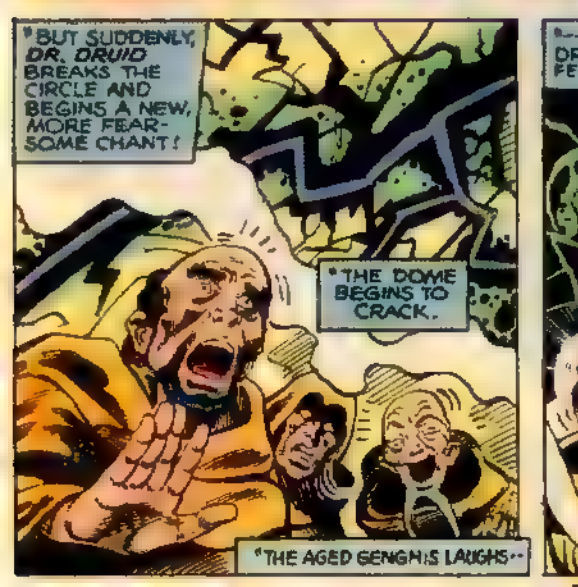
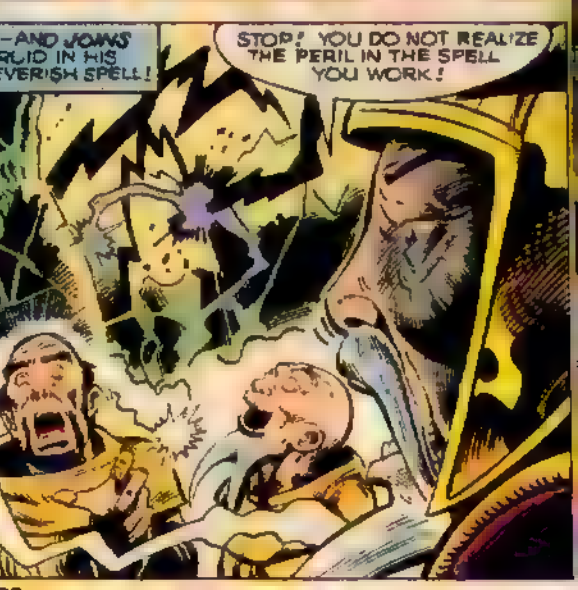
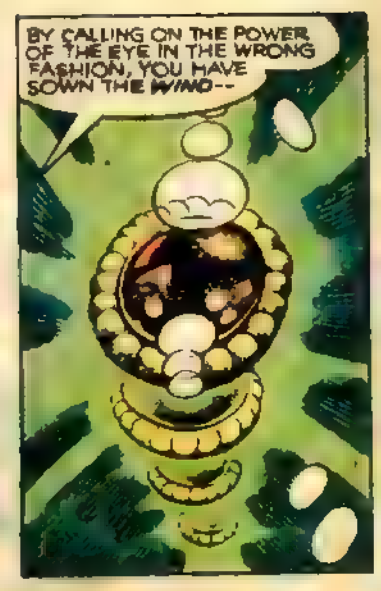

"THE ATTACK DOUBLES IN STRENGTH--
MORE POWER, DORMAMMU! MORE!!

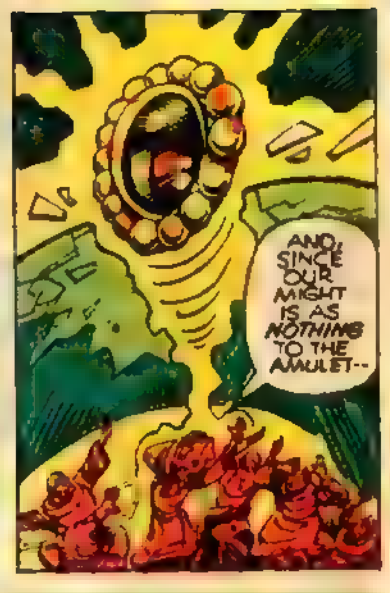

"--AND THOUGH THE HARMONIOUS CHANT CONTINUES IN THE DOME--
--A FEW OF THE VOICES TREMBLE


BE CALM. BE AT PEACE. BE ONE, MY FRIENDS.
THE LIGHT AGAINST AN INFINITY OF DARK IS STILL LIGHT.


"BUT SUDDENLY, DR. DRUID BREAKS THE CIRCLE AND BEGINS A NEW, MORE FEARSOME CHANT!
"THE DOME BEGINS TO CRACK.
"THE AGED GENGHIS LAUGHS--


"--AND JOINS DRUID IN HIS FEVERISH SPELL!
STOP! YOU DO NOT REALIZE THE PERIL IN THE SPELL YOU WORK!



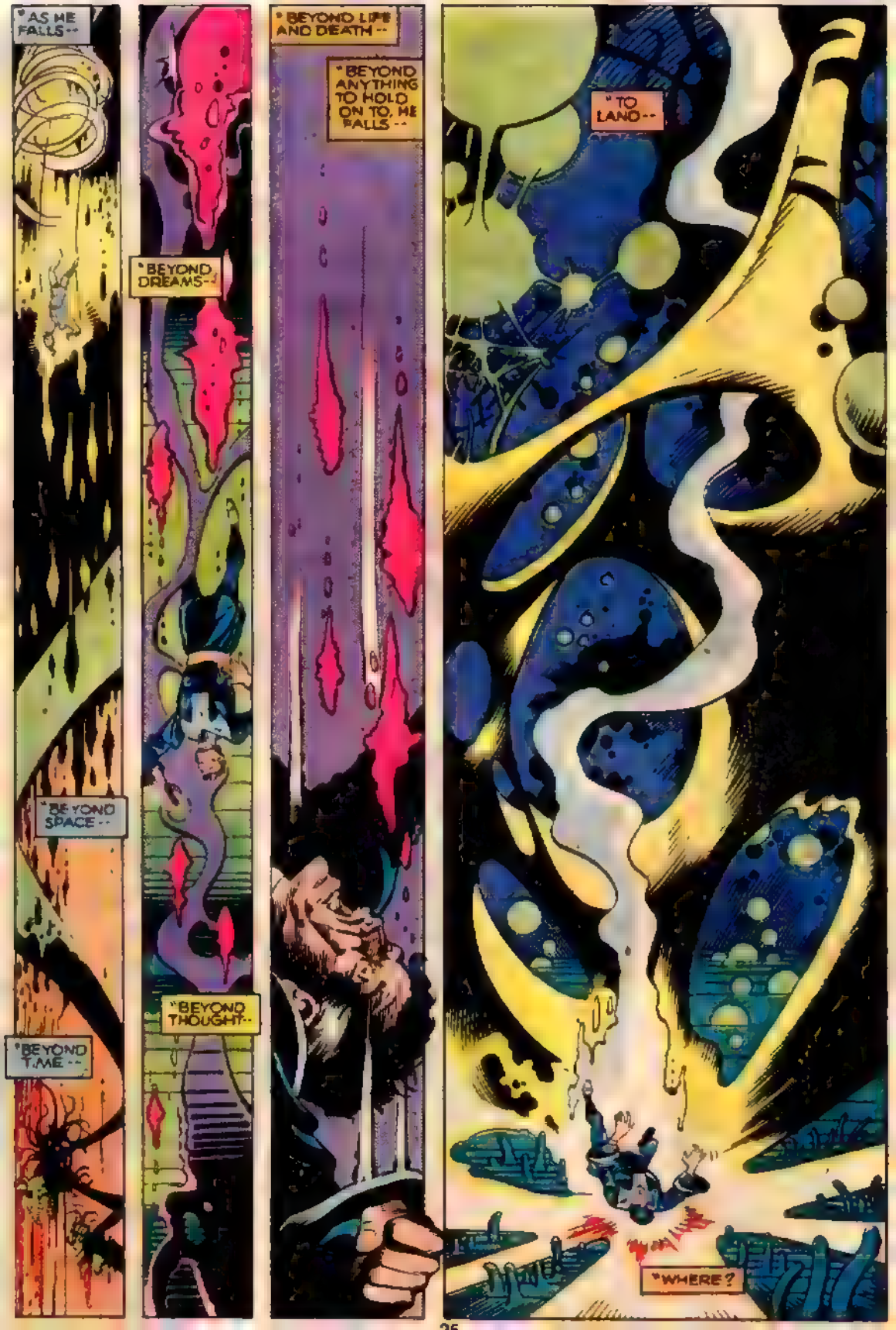


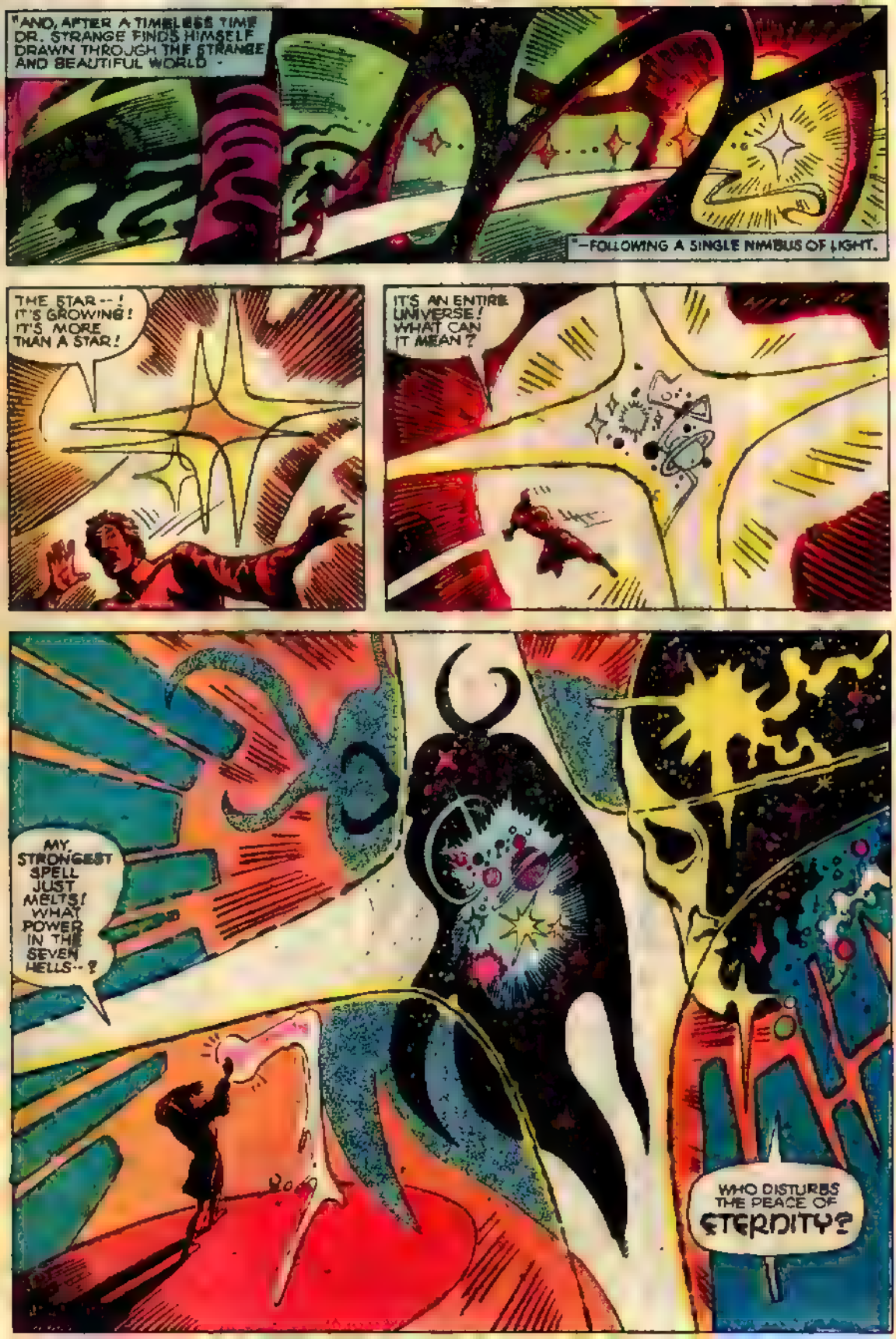
"YOU SHALL REAP THE WHIRLWIND!"

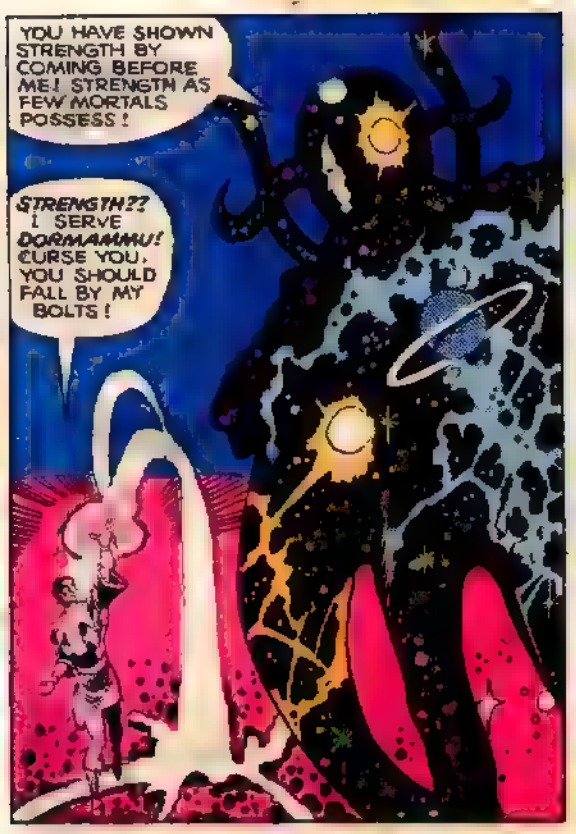
ABRUPTLY, THE ROOM VANISHES-- THE WORLD FALLS AWAY-- AND ALL BECOMES A VORTEX TO MADNESS!

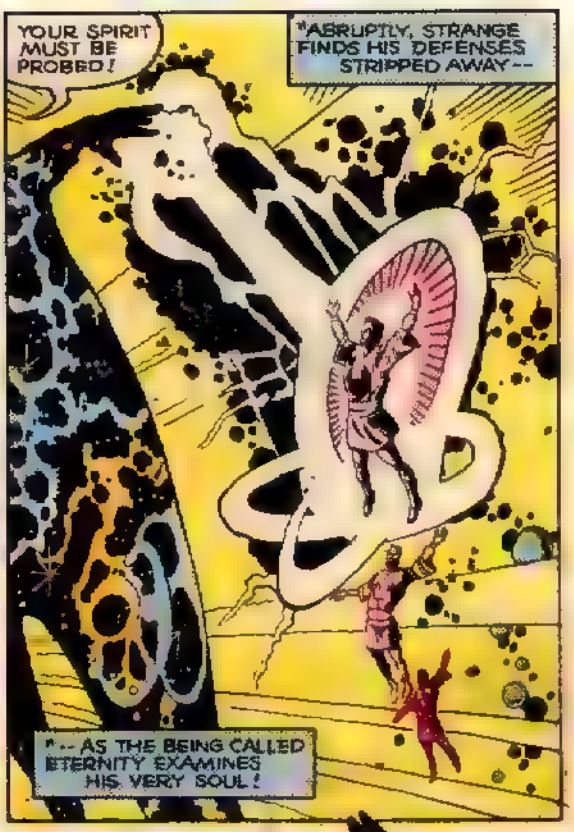
IT'S DRAWING US IN!

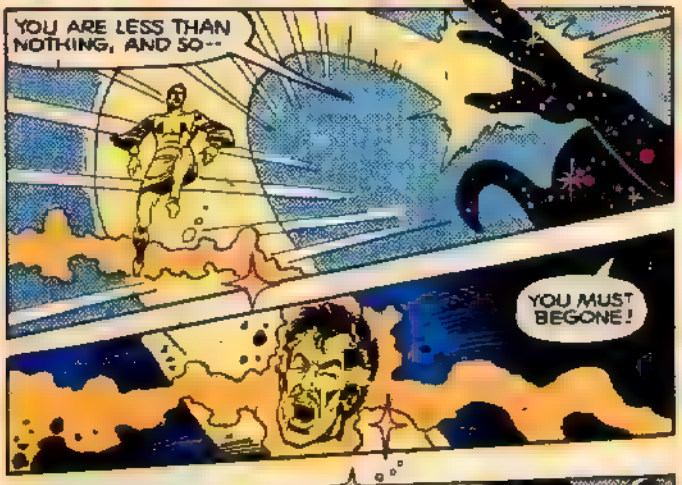
GRAB HOLD! GRAB HOLD, OR WE ARE LOST FOR-EVER!
MY POWERS ARE GONE! NO SPELLS WORK IN THIS VORTEX! THIS IS IM-POSSIBLE!
GENGHIS, NO! DON'T--
BUT GENGHIS LAUGHS AS HE LEAPS TO JOIN THE COSMIC INSANITY HE HAS LIVED WITH FOR SO LONG. HE HAS REACHED HIS GOAL!
HE'S GONE!
AND NO ONE THINKS OF REACHING OUT TO DR. STRANGE AS HE HURTLES BY...
...SO THE ONLY THING STRANGE HAS TO CLING TO IS HIS SANITY!

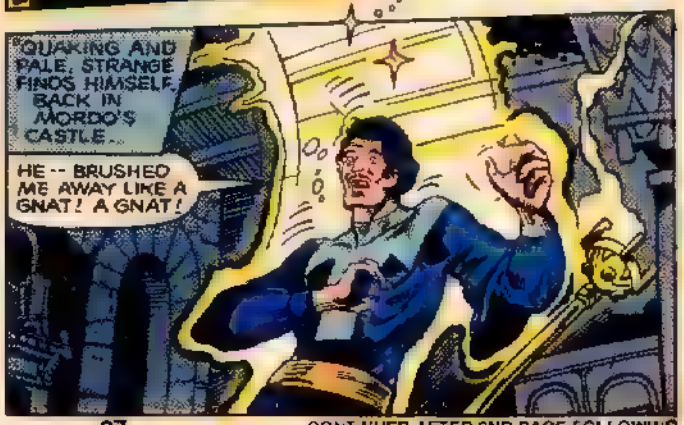

"AS HE FALLS--
"BEYOND SPACE--
"BEYOND TIME--
"BEYOND DREAMS--
"BEYOND THOUGHT--
"BEYOND LIFE AND DEATH--
"BEYOND ANYTHING TO HOLD ON TO, HE FALLS--
"TO LAND--
"WHERE?


"AND, AFTER A TIMELESS TIME DR. STRANGE FINDS HIMSELF DRAWN THROUGH THE STRANGE AND BEAUTIFUL WORLD -
"—FOLLOWING A SINGLE NIMBUS OF LIGHT.
THE STAR--! IT'S GROWING! IT'S MORE THAN A STAR!
IT'S AN ENTIRE UNIVERSE! WHAT CAN IT MEAN?
MY STRONGEST SPELL JUST MELTS! WHAT POWER IN THE SEVEN HELLS--?
WHO DISTURBS THE PEACE OF ETERNITY?









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AND, IN THE SANCTUM OF THE ANCIENT ONE, THE CIRCLE OF WHITE SORCERERS -- MINUS ONE -- PUT THEMSELVES SLOWLY BACK TOGETHER.

OSHTUR BE PRAISED! WE STILL LIVE!

LET ME HELP YOU UP, ANCIENT ONE!

I BEG YOU, MASTER, PUNISH ME FOR MY MISDEED! IN MY PRIDE AND FOLLY, I NEARLY DOOMED US ALL!

THERE IS NO NEED TO PUNISH ONE WHO TRULY REPENTS, OR DRUID. ARISE!

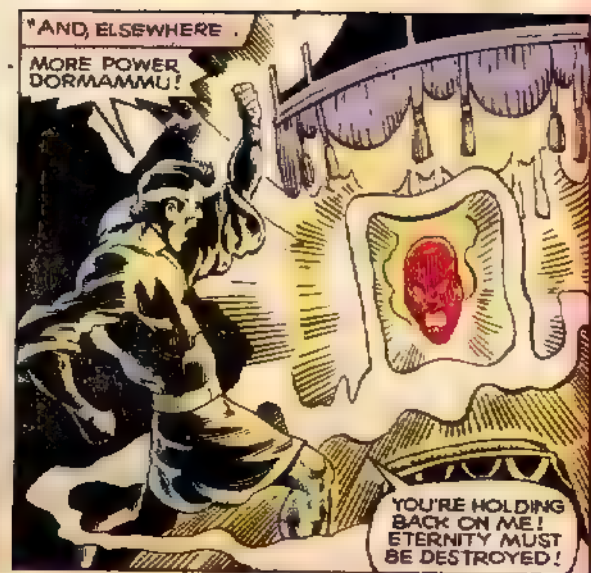
BUT, VENERABLE ONE -- WITHOUT GENGHIS WE ARE FAR WEAKER! AND WE CAN ALL SENSE THAT STRANGE WAS NOT DESTROYED BY THE VORTEX! WHAT SHALL WE DO NOW? ANOTHER ONSLAUGHT WILL FINISH US!

WONG -- MISS BENTLEY -- FAITHFUL HAMIR -- PLEASE FOLLOW ME. IT IS TIME FOR YOUR ROLE IN THE FATEFUL DRAMA TO BE PLAYED.

YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TRAINED IN THE MYSTIC ARTS, YET YOU HAVE WHAT OUR ENEMY LACKS. FAITH AND PURITY OF SPIRIT! AND THAT IS A POWERFUL KEY!

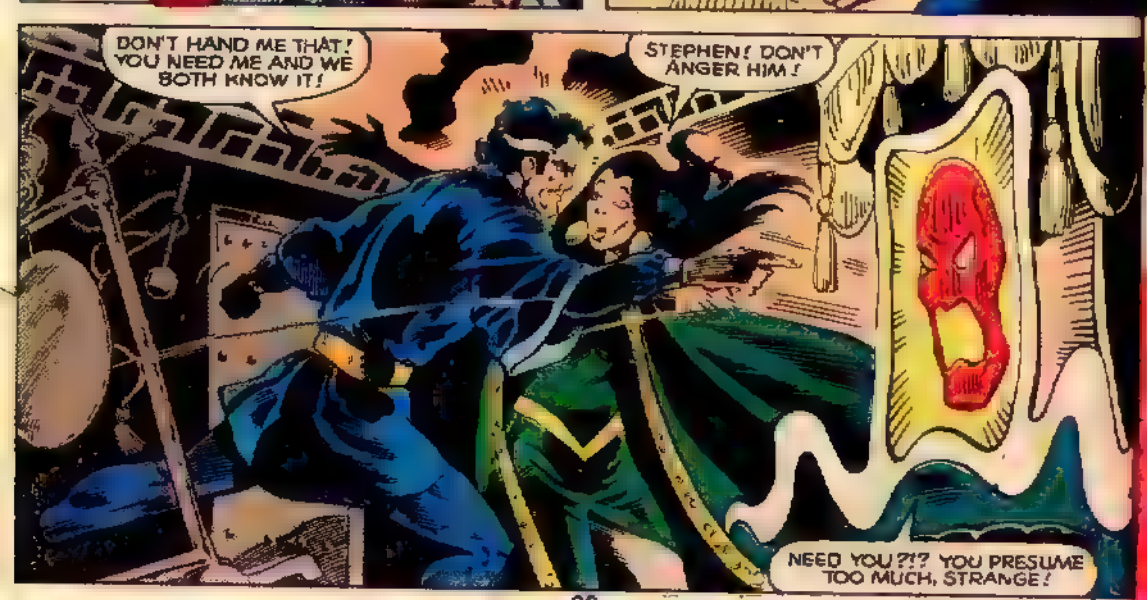
BY THE SECRET NAME OF FIRE-- BY THE LIGHT AND BY ITS SIRE
BY THE FAITH WHERE DARK THE NIGHT--
HEAR OUR PLEA AND FILL OUR SIGHT!
ANCIENT ONE, I--? WHAT--
"SUDDENLY, THE FEATURES OF THE THREE ACOLYTES GO BLANK ..
BELOVED SERVANT, WE HAVE HEARD. THE VISHANTI ATTEND YOUR WORDS.
".. AS THE ESSENCES OF THE THREE DEATHLESS SPIRITS INHABIT THEIR FORMS
IT HAS BEEN LONG SINCE WE WERE FLESH IT IS GOOD
I REJOICE TO SHARE YOUR PRESENCE, O MASTERS, EVEN AT THIS HOUR!
WE KNOW OF YOUR STRUGGLE WITH THE DREAD ONE, SERVANT THE LIGHT FLICKERS AND MAY GO OUT YET THE VISHANTI ARE NOT GIVERS OF POWER, NOR BINDERS OF DEMONS
WE CANNOT GIVE YOU MIGHT, OR SLAY YOUR ENEMIES FOR YOU. AS WELL YOU KNOW WHAT, THEN, DO YOU WISH OF US?
SIMPLY THIS, BELOVED MASTERS. WE ARE LOST, WITHOUT HOPE
WE SEEK YOUR GUIDANCE.

GUIDANCE HAS EVER BEEN OURS TO GIVE, ANCIENT ONE! ATTEND, AND WE SHALL TELL YOU WHAT YOU MUST DO--

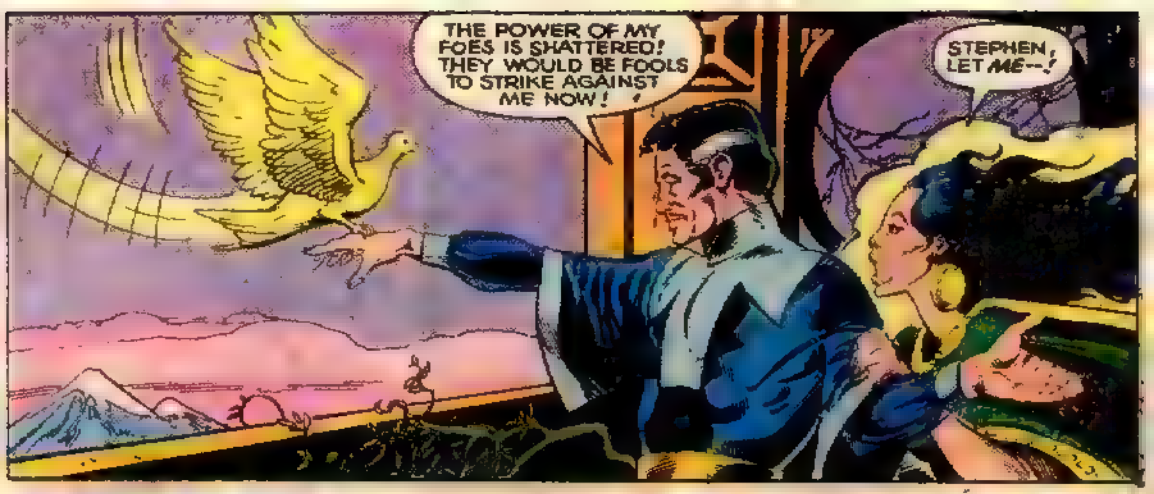

"AND, ELSEWHERE .
MORE POWER DORMAMMU!
YOU'RE HOLDING BACK ON ME! ETERNITY MUST BE DESTROYED!

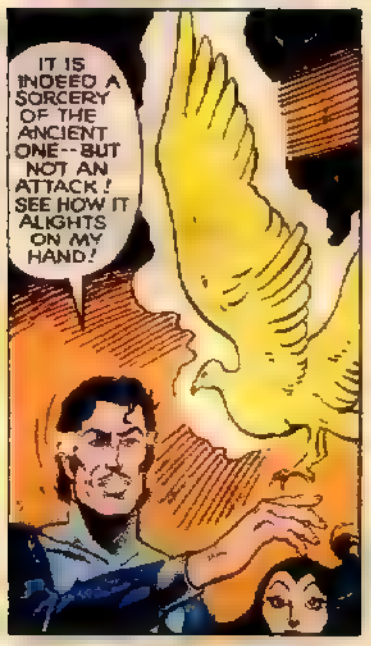
NOBODY TREATS DR.STRANGE LIKE DIRT AND GETS AWAY WITH IT!
ETERNITY MUST DIE!

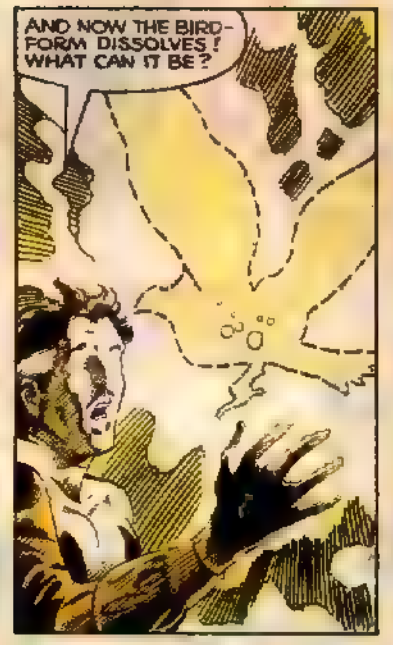
DORMAMMU'S PLANS DO NOT CHANGE FOR VENDETTAS! YOU WOULD DO WELL TO REMEMBER THAT, SLAVE!


DON'T HAND ME THAT! YOU NEED ME AND WE BOTH KNOW IT!
STEPHEN! DON'T ANGER HIM!
NEED YOU ?!? YOU PRESUME TOO MUCH, STRANGE!

I AM DORMAMMU! MINE IS THE POWER AND THE PLAN! ETERNITY SHALL FALL, BUT ONLY AFTER THE ANCIENT ONE! BUT REMEMBER THAT, I AM SUPREME!
NONE MAY PLOT AGAINST ME -
-- OR DEFY ME! I HAVE SPOKEN!
AS YOU WISH, MY BROTHER, SO BE IT!
"DAWN BURNS THROUGH THE WINDOWS OF CASTLE MORDO. TWO FIGURES WALK ITS HALLS, TANGLED IN WEBS OF INTRIGUE, HATRED, AND MORNING LIGHT..
PATIENCE, MY STEPHEN! SOON WE SHALL STAND SUPREME IN THIS COSMOS, AND THEN --
WE?
FORGIVE ME, DARLING. OF COURSE, WE.
UMAR, LOOK! A DOVE -- BUT THE COLOR OF GOLD! AND IT APPROACHES THE PALACE AS IF SENT!
BE CAREFUL MY STEPHEN! IT MAY WELL BE AN ATTACK BY OUR FOES!

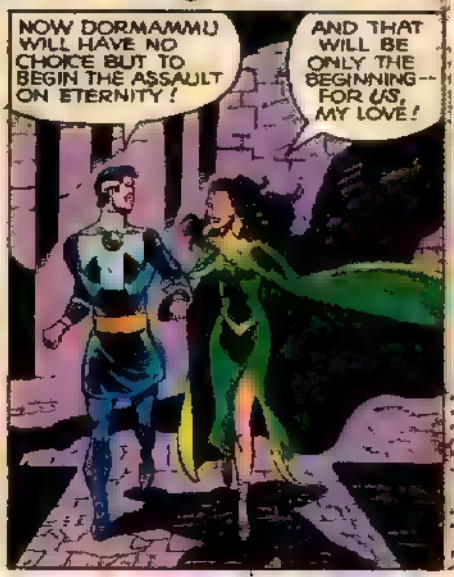

THE POWER OF MY FOES IS SHATTERED! THEY WOULD BE FOOLS TO STRIKE AGAINST ME NOW!
STEPHEN, LET ME--!

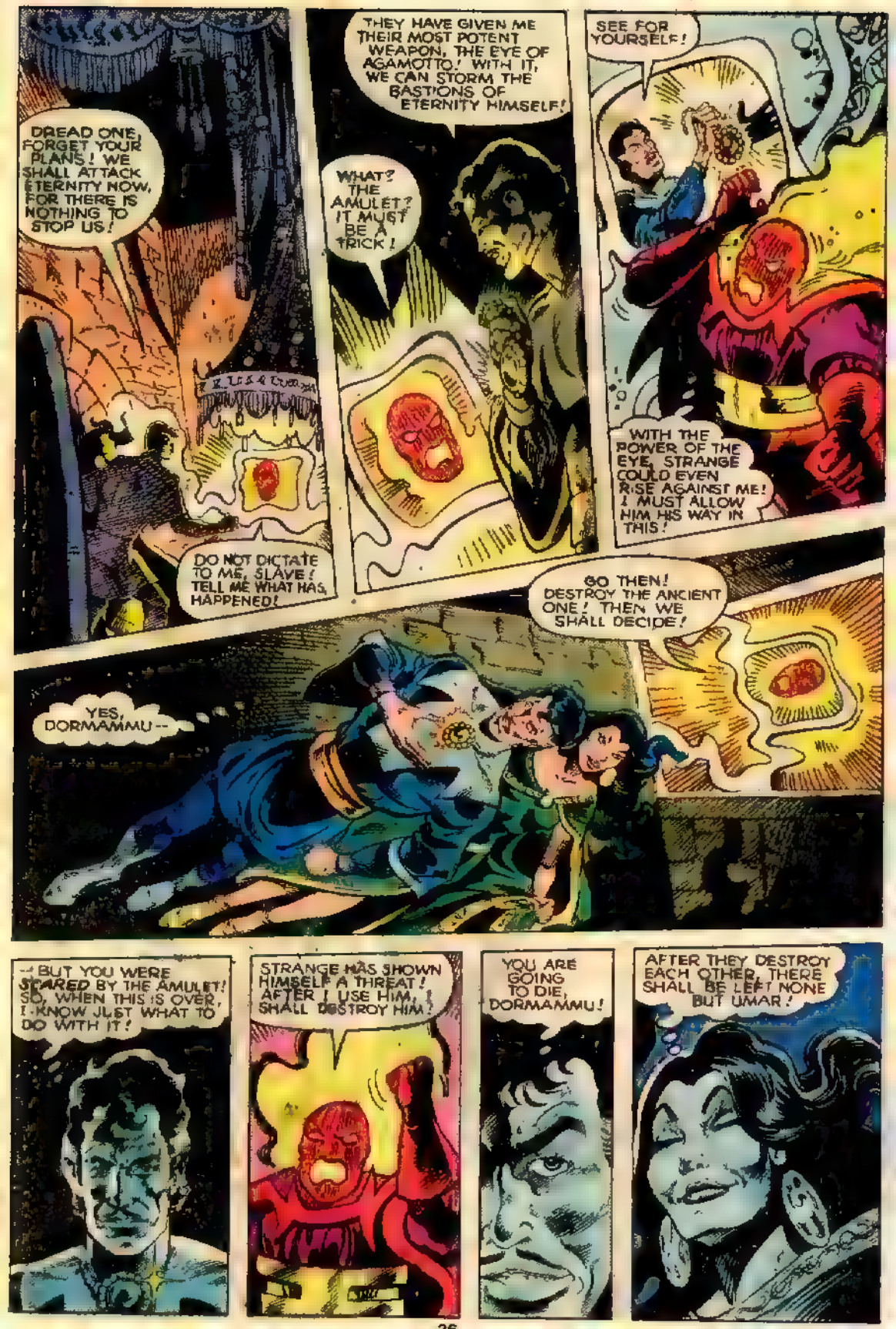

IT IS INDEED A SORCERY OF THE ANCIENT ONE--BUT NOT AN ATTACK! SEE HOW IT ALIGHTS ON MY HAND!

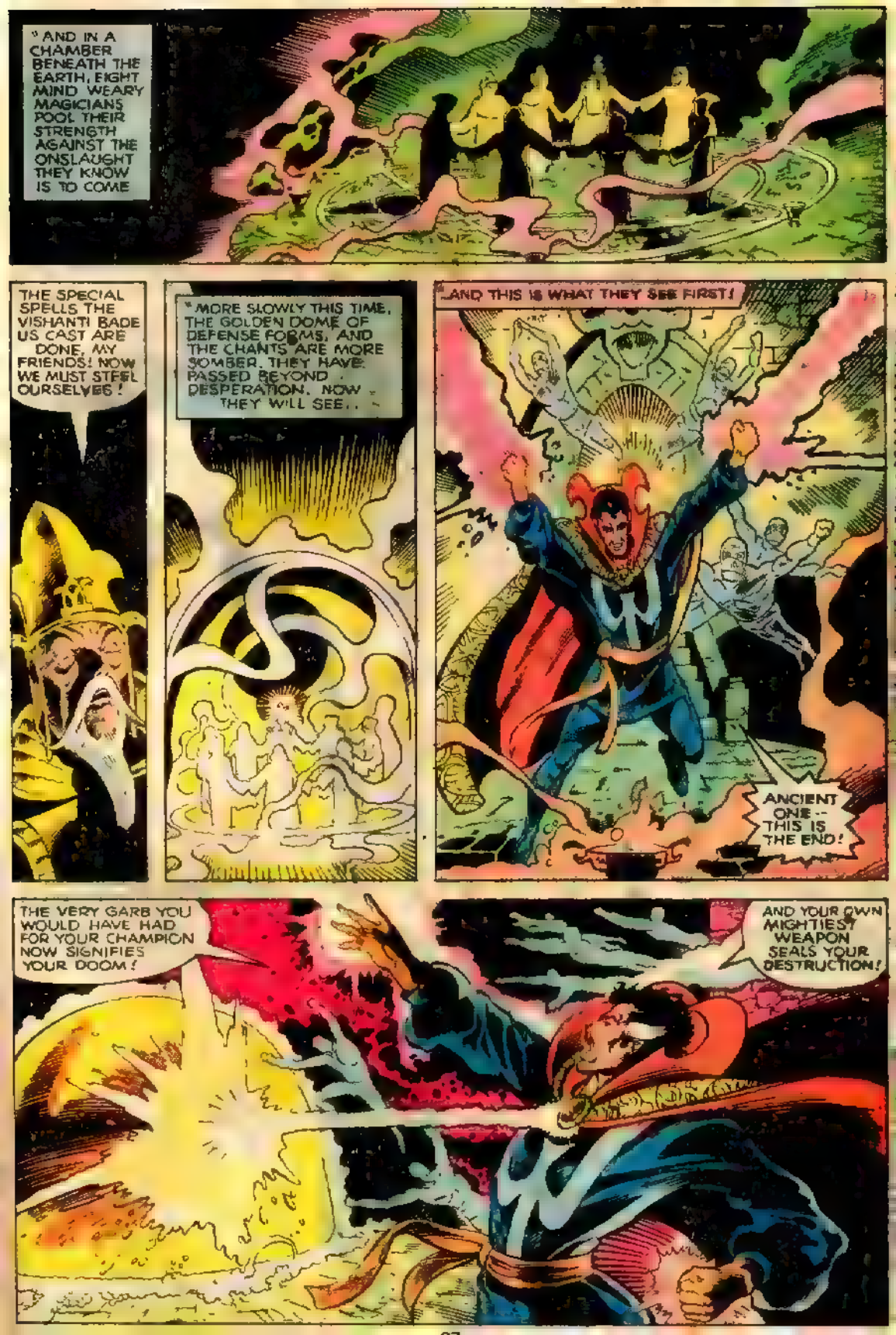

AND NOW THE BIRD-FORM DISSOLVES! WHAT CAN IT BE?

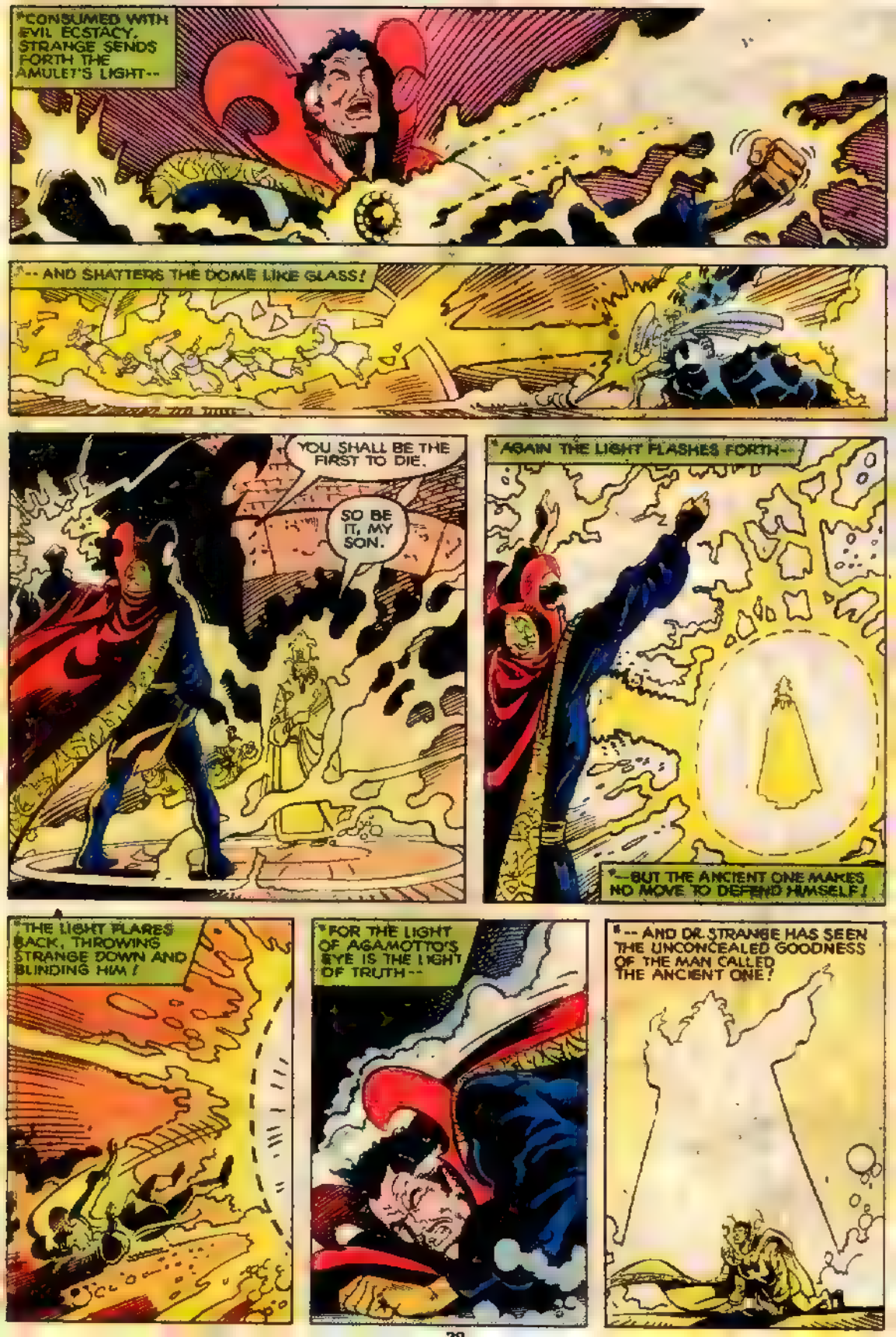
BY ALL THE FORMS OF CHAOS--THE AMULET! THEY HAVE SURRENDERED THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO TO ME!

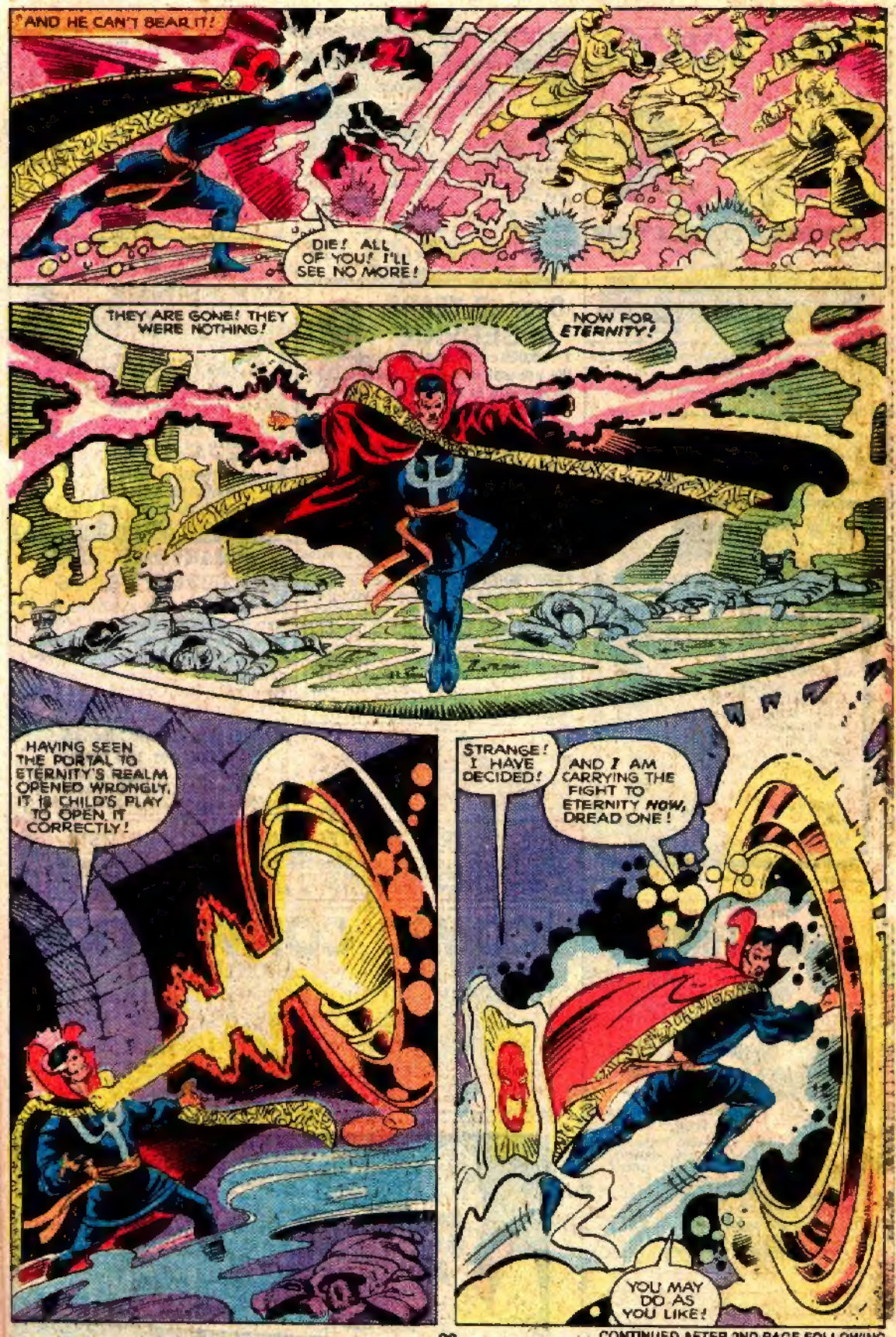
BUT IF THEY THOUGHT TO BRIBE ME INTO THEIR CAMP WITH IT, THEY WERE MISTAKEN! THIS SPELLS THEIR DOOM!
STILL, IT IS A LOVELY THING, eh, UMAR?
YES--LOVELY.


NOW DORMAMMU WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BEGIN THE ASSAULT ON ETERNITY!
AND THAT WILL BE ONLY THE BEGINNING--FOR US, MY LOVE!


DREAD ONE, FORGET YOUR PLANS! WE SHALL ATTACK ETERNITY NOW, FOR THERE IS NOTHING TO STOP US!
DO NOT DICTATE TO ME, SLAVE! TELL ME WHAT HAS HAPPENED!
THEY HAVE GIVEN ME THEIR MOST POTENT WEAPON, THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO! WITH IT, WE CAN STORM THE BASTIONS OF ETERNITY HIMSELF!
WHAT? THE AMULET? IT MUST BE A TRICK!
SEE FOR YOURSELF!
WITH THE POWER OF THE EYE, STRANGE COULD EVEN RISE AGAINST ME! I MUST ALLOW HIM HIS WAY IN THIS!
GO THEN! DESTROY THE ANCIENT ONE! THEN WE SHALL DECIDE!
YES, DORMAMMU--
--BUT YOU WERE STARED BY THE AMULET! SO, WHEN THIS IS OVER, I KNOW JUST WHAT TO DO WITH IT!
STRANGE HAS SHOWN HIMSELF A THREAT! AFTER I USE HIM, I SHALL DESTROY HIM!
YOU ARE GOING TO DIE, DORMAMMU!
AFTER THEY DESTROY EACH OTHER, THERE SHALL BE LEFT NONE BUT UMAR!


"AND IN A CHAMBER BENEATH THE EARTH, EIGHT MIND WEARY MAGICIANS POOL THEIR STRENGTH AGAINST THE ONSLAUGHT THEY KNOW IS TO COME
THE SPECIAL SPELLS THE VISHANTI BADE US CAST ARE DONE, MY FRIENDS! NOW WE MUST STEEL OURSELVES!
"MORE SLOWLY THIS TIME, THE GOLDEN DOME OF DEFENSE FORMS, AND THE CHANTS ARE MORE SOMBER. THEY HAVE PASSED BEYOND DESPERATION. NOW THEY WILL SEE...
...AND THIS IS WHAT THEY SEE FIRST!
ANCIENT ONE -- THIS IS THE END!
THE VERY GARB YOU WOULD HAVE HAD FOR YOUR CHAMPION NOW SIGNIFIES YOUR DOOM!
AND YOUR OWN MIGHTIEST WEAPON SEALS YOUR DESTRUCTION!


"CONSUMED WITH EVIL ECSTACY, STRANGE SENDS FORTH THE AMULET'S LIGHT--
"-- AND SHATTERS THE DOME LIKE GLASS!
YOU SHALL BE THE FIRST TO DIE.
SO BE IT, MY SON.
"AGAIN THE LIGHT FLASHES FORTH--
"--BUT THE ANCIENT ONE MAKES NO MOVE TO DEFEND HIMSELF!
"THE LIGHT FLARES BACK, THROWING STRANGE DOWN AND BLINDING HIM!
"FOR THE LIGHT OF AGAMOTTO'S EYE IS THE LIGHT OF TRUTH--
"-- AND DR. STRANGE HAS SEEN THE UNCONCEALED GOODNESS OF THE MAN CALLED THE ANCIENT ONE!



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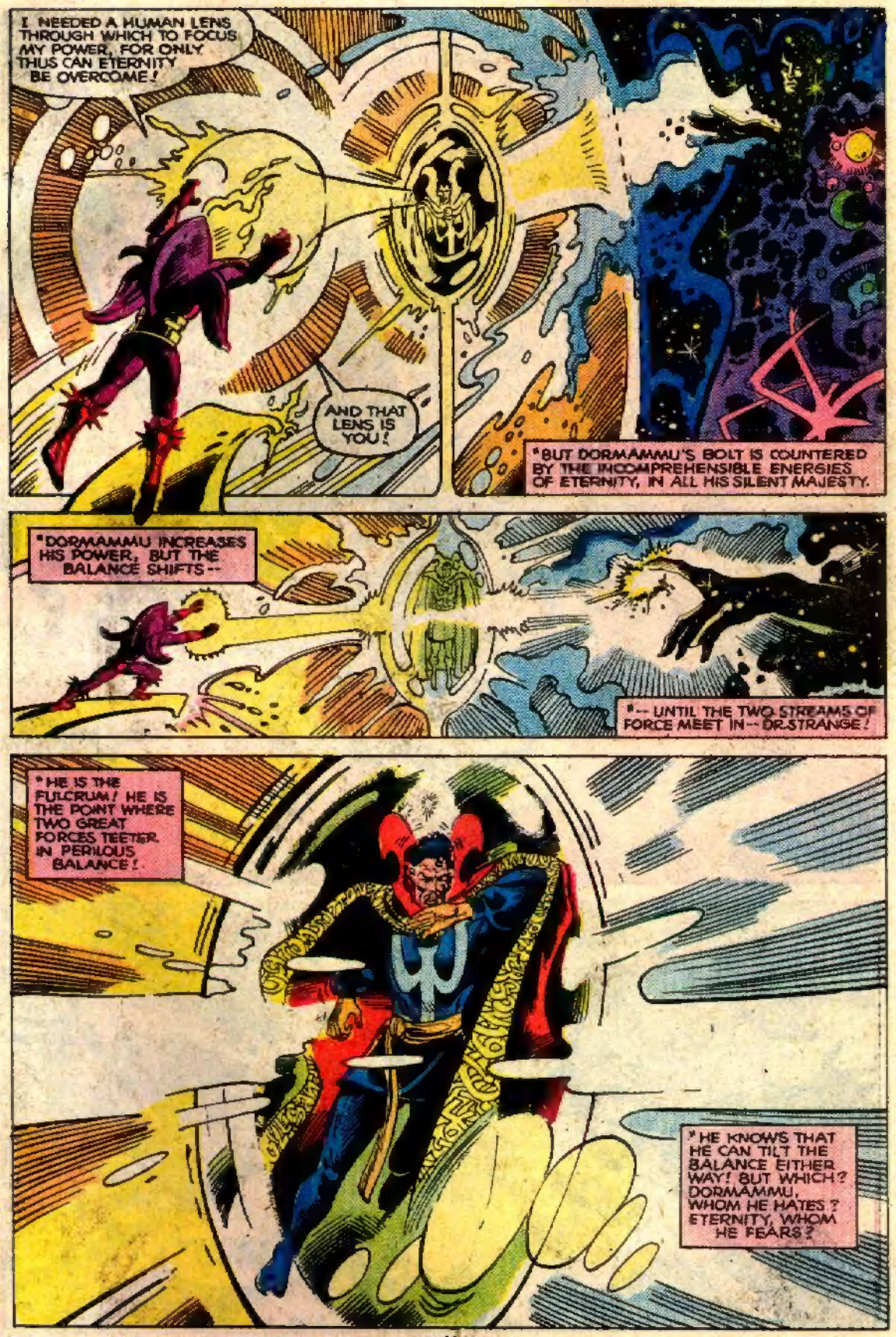
I NEEDED A HUMAN LENS THROUGH WHICH TO FOCUS MY POWER, FOR ONLY THUS CAN ETERNITY BE OVERCOME!
AND THAT LENS IS YOU!
*BUT DORMAMMU'S BOLT IS COUNTERED BY THE INCOMPREHENSIBLE ENERGIES OF ETERNITY, IN ALL HIS SILENT MAJESTY.
*DORMAMMU INCREASES HIS POWER, BUT THE BALANCE SHIFTS--
*--UNTIL THE TWO STREAMS OF FORCE MEET IN--DR.STRANGE!
*HE IS THE FULCRUM! HE IS THE POINT WHERE TWO GREAT FORCES TEETER IN PERILOUS BALANCE!
*HE KNOWS THAT HE CAN TILT THE BALANCE EITHER WAY! BUT WHICH? DORMAMMU, WHOM HE HATES? ETERNITY, WHOM HE FEARS?

"SHALL HE CHOOSE CHAOS -- OR ORDER? GOOD -- OR EVIL? SHALL HE MAKE THE COSMIC DENIAL -- OR THE COSMIC AFFIRMATION?

YES!

I CHOOSE THE GOOD!!

"A COSMOS IS TORN ASUNDER IN FURY INCOMPARABLE.
"AND DR. STRANGE IS CAST NEWBORN ON A DISTANT SHORE.
HE RETURNS! BUT FOR GOOD OR FOR EVIL?
ANCIENT ONE -- I'VE BEEN A FOOL, BUT FINALLY I UNDERSTAND! THERE IS SOMETHING MORE THAN POWER -- MORE THAN WHAT DORMAMMU OFFERED!
I WOULD BE -- YOUR DISCIPLE.
YOU HAD TO SEE, DR. STRANGE! SEE DORMAMMU FOR WHAT HE TRULY WAS -- AND MYSELF FOR WHAT I AM! SUCH WAS THE VISHANTI'S PLAN, EVEN TO OUR NEAR-DEATHS!
COME NOW -- DISCIPLE...
AND SO, EVEN ON THIS PATH, DR. STRANGE COMES TO THE SIDE OF GOOD!
BUT THIS IS A MAN AS YOUR SORCERER NEVER WAS -- A MAN WHO HAS BEEN THE MIGHTIEST OF BLACK AND WHITE MAGICIANS -- AND PERHAPS THE STRANGEST AND MOST WONDROUS INCARNATION OF THE SPIRIT THAT EVER IS -- DR. STRANGE!
The End